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SECURITY INFORMATION

U 18457

PLACE: Sortland

COUNTRY: Norway

Population: 800 plus
In Sortland municipality 5359

Province: Lengby Vesteraalen Islands

Date of Observation: 18 Mar. '51

General Description:

Fishing, fish processing and small farming settlement on main shipping channel north through Vesteraalen Islands. Ferry point for contact with road system to mainland.

Geographic Description:

The Vesteraalen Islands are the northwestern group of the Archipelago lying off the Norwegian coast near Narvik. They guard the entrance to Ofotfjord in which Narvik lies. The main route northward along the coast lies through the islands from near Svolvær to near Harstad. Sortland lies midway along this route where it is exceptionally narrow. Although fishing is the main Occupations: occupation, there is considerable dairy farming on the relatively level land representing raised sea beaches along the coast.

Agricultural

Fishing

Industrial

Small scale dairy farming Important

Fish processing

Natural Vegetation:

Birch and some conifer on lower ground merging with tundra.

Land Forms and Geology:

Glaciated islands with numerous raised beaches and alpine type topography.

Mining:

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Population (racial, cultural, linguistic): Norwegian fishing and farming people with influx of cannery workers seasonally. Some professional types.

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PLACE (cont'd): SORTLAND

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Climate and Weather

Temperatures: See Risbyhamm

Precipitation:

Clouds:

Other:

Electric Power: Yes

Source:

Voltage:

Cycle:

Extent of Grid:

Telephone Yes Telegraph Yes Radio ? TV

Probable cable to mainland.

TRANSPORTATION: (From: Sortland To: Local)

Railway: None

Station:

Ballast:

Power :

Gauge :

Bridges:

Highways:

Route No's : #810, along east coast of Langby

Surface Type: Gravel

Width :

Seasonal Use: All year

Underpass : Note linked with Langenes at northern most point of island.

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PLACE (cont'd): SORTLAND

Ferries:

Location: Sortland to Strand on Hinnøya

Tonnage : No

Capacity: Nothing

Schedules: Irregular

Steamers: Links highway #810 with #795 and by ferry from Flesnes to Refsnes to
Harstad

Routing: Regular express north and south

Tonnages:

Capacity:

Schedules: Twice weekly each way.

Bus Routes: All year north to Langesnes, south to Sandnes and thence to Melbo

Summer:

Winter:

Other Transportation:

MAPS

Title

Scale

Date

Publisher

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PLACE (cont'd): SORTLAND

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Guide and Other Books:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Cost</u>
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PERSONAL DATA:

Date of travel to this place: 18 Mar. '51 Arrived: 1030

Starting Point: Melbo Departed: 11:15

Distance traveled (in kms): _____

Vehicles Used: St. Svithun

Where stayed: _____ Comments: _____

CONTACTS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>T.ph.</u>	<u>Comment</u>
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PLACE (cont'd): SORTLAND

Photographs:

Purchased locally: None

Taken: Approaches to Sortland from sea, detail of harbor and town
and panorama of opposite side of fjord.

Sketches Made:

Location

Description

Sortland

Harbor and nearby terrain

SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Industries:

<u>Type</u>	<u>No. of Workers</u>	<u>Products</u>	<u>Power</u>
Fish packing			

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SEAPORTS:

General Comments:

Steamship wharf is open to fjord and runs northwest-southeast. There is a good sheltered harbor for fishing boats. (See sketch map)

Cargo Handling:Wharves:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Depth</u>
Main Steamship Wharf	At town	Length 85 meters Depth 15 ft. or more.
Fishing wharves to north and south		

Lighters:

Small

Cranes: None

<u>Location</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>Comments</u>
None		

Repair FacilitiesMachine Shops: Very limitedFoundries: NoDry docks: NoSalvage gear: NoSupplies AvailableWater YesCoal NoProvisions LimitedOil-Fuel For motor boatsEngineering Limited for motorboatsDiesel Fuel For motor boatsDeck Limited for motorboats

Harbor Information Approach from south is a round red buoy to avoid shallow water.

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